

Celebrity Buzz

Ronson DJs opening of strip club

pg 18



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EASY MONEY WEEKDAYS
@ 8:13, 12:13 & 4:13

Jail holds man for 60 days more than his sentence

BURNSIDE A prisoner was held in the Burnside Correctional Facility 60 days longer than he was sentenced for, CBC News reported yesterday.

Justice Department spokeswoman Sherri Aikenhead told CBC a paperwork error led to the man serving his sentences for eight charges one after the other, when they were supposed to be served simultaneously. The man, who reportedly suffers from a mental illness, has not asked for or been offered compensation.

This is the latest mix-up for the provincial justice department. In late March and early April, two prisoners were accidentally released from court when they were supposed to be sent back to the Burnside jail, something Nova Scotia Justice Minister Cecil Clarke called unacceptable and unreasonable.

METRO HALIFAX

Sports pg 10



Huskie draws CFL attention

Entertainment pg 17

It's a Dylan life for Bob

ShareYourViews

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UNESCO Dance Party **The Longest Now**



Two contemporary dancers perform *The Longest Now*, composed of shifting movement that explores the nature of human connection, during a celebration of UNESCO's International Dance Day yesterday afternoon at Grand Parade in Halifax. Story, pg 4

Feeling sick? Don't panic, officials say

PAUL MCLEOD
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SWINE FLU Health authorities in Nova Scotia are still waiting on three samples sent to a Winnipeg lab that may contain swine flu.

But while the number of confirmed cases in the province remains at four, Nova Scotia's chief medical officer says they can't be sure exactly how

7 days

many people in the province have the disease. Because swine flu infections have not reached the lethal levels seen in Mexico,

doctors are not asking everyone with symptoms to get tested. "I've talked to people, colleagues, who have come back from Mexico in the last few weeks who have had flu-like illness and have stayed at home for a few days and then gone back to work," said Dr. Robert Strang.

"We're not encouraging everybody to go in and get tested because that means they have to go into the health-care system." Strang said they are focusing on monitoring any serious cases that arise. Yesterday the World Health Organization raised the swine flu alert to Phase 5, the second-highest level.

MORE COVERAGE, PGS 5, 6 & 8

Kelly doesn't dig polls

Mayor says shovels in the ground should trump electioneering

PHILIP CROUCHER
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"I believe whoever pulls the plug, they will certainly hear from the public as to their disdain."

Mayor Peter Kelly

Mayor Peter Kelly is making his thoughts abundantly clear about the possibility of a provincial election being called in the coming days.

He doesn't want one — "no ifs, no ands, no buts." "I want to see all political leaders work together. Whatever their differences are, meet, speak and stay focused," Kelly said yesterday. "People are very much focused and very much want the focus to be on the economy, not politics."

"They want shovels to the ground. They don't want polls to be looked at."

With the House of Assembly being recalled today, the likelihood of a spring election is very high with the Progressive Conservative government teetering on the brink.

The Tories have confirmed their first order of business will be a rule change allowing them to spend \$100 million in off-shore money that currently has to go on the debt.

That amendment needs to pass for the budget to be valid. If both opposition

parties vote against it, an election would be triggered.

So far, both the NDP and Liberals have refused to support the law change, making a government defeat appear likely.

"I believe whoever pulls the plug, they will certainly hear from the public as to their disdain for having to be forced into an election and spend money we don't have to spend," said Kelly, who pointed out he "isn't taking sides" and

spoke to the premier directly yesterday to inform him of his concerns.

Kelly is worried an election would postpone significant infrastructure projects he feels are crucial to HRM and the province.

He said the municipality has identified several construction projects that are ready to proceed under the province's proposed infrastructure stimulus package, but are on hold until the province puts the federal money into the municipality's hands.

"The public wants jobs, economic stimulus, and if we go down that (election) road, we're going to lose some opportunities," he said.

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Blueberry producer getting \$1.5M from province

A wild blueberry producer that employs about 85 Nova Scotians is receiving a provincial loan guarantee to grow its business. The province announced yesterday that \$1.5 million will be given to Rainbow Farms Limited in Hants County as part of the province's Industrial Expansion Fund. **METRO HALIFAX**

3

Local



Diceman's show no gamble

The "Diceman" is coming to Halifax. Comedian Andrew Dice Clay will be performing at Casino Nova Scotia's Schooner Showroom June 19 and 20. Clay made his comedic breakthrough in the 1980s with his hardcore comedy style. Tickets are \$65, plus taxes and service charges. Visit ticketatlantic.com or phone 451-1221.

METRO HALIFAX

What's the price of bottled water?

Activists point to sagging infrastructure as reason to turn taps back on

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The federal government spends millions of dollars on bottled water, wasted money better spent ensuring all Canadians have access to free, clean water, activists said yesterday.

"Since April 2006, the government of Canada has spent upwards of \$7.2 million of public money to purchase bottled water," said Danny Cavanagh, president of CUPE Nova Scotia, quoting new Polaris Institute findings. "Water fountains, accessible taps, water-treatment plants — just think what the government of Canada could do if it properly invested \$7.2 million."

The activists were speaking as the Canadian Bottled Water Association held its annual trade convention in Halifax.

Canada's public water infrastructure is in bad shape and needs investment, Ca-



Nova Scotia CUPE president Danny Cavanagh listens during a news conference yesterday at the Harbourview Holiday Inn in Dartmouth yesterday.

vagh added, raising concerns about the environmental and health impacts of bottled water.

Geri LeBlanc, director for aboriginal members for

the Public Service Alliance of Canada, called for the government to stop buying water in places with clean water on tap and to invest that money in communi-

ties where the water is undrinkable.

"In Canada, many First Nations have water systems that are comparable to developing countries,"

"Here in Dartmouth, we don't have to go far to find a First Nations community that has water pollution."

Geri LeBlanc

she said. "Here in Dartmouth, we don't have to go far to find a First Nations community that has water pollution."

Pictou Landing First Nation in Boat Harbour, which has been inundated with mill waste water since the 1960s, was one example she gave. Pictou Landing's toxic harbour goes into the community's well water, LeBlanc said. "How much better would the health of those aboriginal communities be if the government had spent that amount upgrading a water-treatment plant on a First Nations community?" she questioned.

Extradition to begin for Glen Race

PHILIP CROUCHER
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CRIME Provincial Court Judge Jim Burrell has issued a warrant for convicted killer Glen Race, allowing the extradition process to begin for the 27-year-old charged with the slayings of two people from Nova Scotia.

Crown prosecutor Paul Scovil brought forth the request yesterday morning at provincial court in Bridgewater. Race, who is from Dartmouth, is currently serving a life sentence without parole in a New York state prison after Glen Race being found guilty in January for the shooting death of Darcy Manor in May 2007.

Race is also accused of murdering Trevor Charles Brewster, 45, of Cole Harbour and Michael Paul Knott, 44, of Tantallon the week before Manor was murdered. It's alleged Race was fleeing from those crimes in Nova Scotia when he killed Manor.

Scovil withdrew the original six charges against Race yesterday and upgraded them to two counts of first-degree murder.

Scovil said the next step in the extradition process is to send the warrant to federal officials in Ottawa, who will then apply to Washington for extradition of the accused, which could lead to a hearing in New York.



Fast ferry still docked

FUNDING The fast ferry project has been put on hold for at least a year.

Several "shovel ready" projects were pushed forward yesterday in a bid to get federal money. But the fast ferry was not one of them. Councillors are split on the potential benefits of the ferry, which would commute passengers from Bedford to downtown Halifax in about 15 minutes.

And because a business plan had not been completed, the issue was put off for one year.

"Without the plan you can't move forward," said Mayor Peter Kelly.

"If you do, you're not fulfilling the due diligence of the process and you're short-changing the project in terms of determining value for dollars."

METRO HALIFAX

Public Gardens opens next week

SUMMER The warm weather is here, and soon one of Halifax's favourite stopping places to enjoy it will be open for everyone.

The Halifax Public Gardens will open to the public for the 2009 season Thursday, May 7. Staff with the Halifax Regional Mu-

nicipality spent the winter months preparing the Gardens for the warmer months, as hundreds of thousands of people walk through the downtown location each year.

Park hours are 8 a.m. to dusk at all gates.

METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

CRIME An adult male and two females are facing charges of possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking after Halifax Regional Police say a quantity of cocaine, cash and

drug paraphernalia was seized Tuesday night in Spryfield. Police say the integrated drug unit conducted a search on Woodcrest Drive.

METRO HALIFAX

'Pink-letter day' for survivors

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

CANCER The big pink Tour for the Cure breast-cancer-battling bus started up in Halifax yesterday, heading out on an awareness-raising trip through Atlantic Canada.

The bus will visit 110 communities this summer in pursuit of its "ambitious" goal of having 85 per cent of eligible Atlantic Canadian women regularly screened for breast cancer by 2010, said Nancy Margeson of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

"This is a red-letter — actually, a pink-letter day, for women in Nova Scotia," said breast-cancer survivor Elaine Finlay. "We have to get the message across that taking care of yourself is more important than denying the fact of breast cancer."

Standing next to Premier Rodney MacDonald outside of Province House, she said she discovered her cancer in its early stages.

"My adoptive mother wasn't that lucky. For her,



Breast cancer survivor Elaine Finlay stands in front of the large pink Tour for the Cure bus that will travel across Atlantic Canada to bring awareness to the importance of being screened for breast cancer.

Follow the bus

- You can follow the bus online at TourfortheCure.ca.

there were no mammograms and early detection wasn't possible. She died of breast cancer when she was younger than I was

when I was first diagnosed. She missed so much life."

Finlay said women today must take advantage of the huge advances in detection and treatment.

"Caught before it spreads, breast cancer is one of the most successfully treated cancers," she said.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Video A
Calgary bus driver rescues a cowering dog from circling coyotes at metronews.ca/canada
Video Manitoba's flood-blocking sandbags find new life at zoos at metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries
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Lotto 6/49: 8, 20, 22, 29, 33 & 49. Bonus 48.
These results are not official.

The first films created through the Film Nova Scotia bachelor of fine arts Film Production Fund will debut tonight at the Park Lane Cinema at 6:30 p.m. Students creating these short films are Joel McLeod, Chantale Reid, Heather DiPinto, Heather Young and Tiffany Westwood. **METRO HALIFAX**

Dancing the day away

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The lunchtime crowds pressing through Grand Parade square looked a little more choreographed yesterday as 30 dancers took over the centre of Halifax to celebrate UNESCO's International Dance Day.

After a serene, Japanese-inspired piece by Sarah Cox called Open Fan, dozens of casually dressed dancers milled about the square. A few business people got caught up in Susanne Chui's The Longest Now, including one distracted BlackBerry addict who walked between the dancers without glancing up from his phone.

Chui has performed Now before, but this was its outdoors debut. The stolen-from-life movements set to live sounds from local musician Rafael Franco seemed born for the square.

"The first image is like walking in winter, when you're just trying to get where you're going," Chui



About 30 dancers took over the Grand Parade square yesterday to celebrate UNESCO's International Dance Day.

explained. "The second part I call the Museum Walk. It's like, where am I? It's like you walking in Japan or something."

Now ends with a collage

of highly wrought people breaking into a funky dance.

The dancers lucked into sunshine yesterday, but did have a Plan B in case of

rain: Get wet.

"I thought it would be quite beautiful," Chui said of dancing in the rain. "I was kind of looking forward to it."

Springhill set to get new provincial jail

INFRASTRUCTURE Cumberland County's new jail is going to Springhill.

Construction of the new \$18-million North Nova Correctional Centre was announced during a press conference yesterday. The facility will replace the century-old Cumberland County Correctional Centre in Amherst.

"It is a very exciting day for our community as we share our plans for this infrastructure project that is almost shovel ready," Cumberland South MLA and Economic and Rural Development Minister Murray Scott said.

The jail will be built on a piece of 33-acre plot of land on the Black River Road between Herrett

Capacity

- The new 42,000-square-foot jail will include 50 cells with a capacity of 100 beds.

Road and Highway 2. The land was recently transferred from the Town of Springhill to the province for \$1 and will be adjacent to the federally operated Springhill Institution.

"The old jail is antiquated and needs to be replaced with a modern facility to meet present day safety and security requirements," Scott said. "Our staff and inmates all deserve to work and live in healthy, modern facilities."

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

News in brief

RANKING Once again MoneySense magazine has taken a swipe at New Glasgow. After ranking the town 151 out of 154 in last year's Canada's Best Places to Live article, this year's rankings place New Glasgow at the very bottom of the 154-com-

munity list. Victoria takes top spot followed by Ottawa and Kingston rounding out the top three. Moncton was the highest ranked Atlantic community in sixth place while Halifax waved the Nova Scotian flag proudly at 14th place. **NEW GLASGOW NEWS**

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Moms get second chance

Young women whose children have been put into foster care are getting a second chance at parenting thanks to a program in Saskatoon. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

5

Canada

Tracking flu's impact

Experts weigh in on potential severity of virus

What kind of beast will the swine flu prove to be?

Will it gore its way across the globe in a virulent pandemic, or root around a bit here and there — and then just go away?

"All bets are off," says Dr. Michael Gardam, director of infectious disease prevention and control at the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion. "We're in a really weird period right now where you don't know which way this is going to go."

But interviews with several top communicable illness experts suggest there

New cases

Confirmed cases of swine flu in Canada rose to 19 on Wednesday, with health officials predicting the number will continue to grow because of the country's travel links with Mexico.

REUTERS

may be some reasons to wager on the more benign outcome, particularly in advanced countries like Canada.

Gardam says evidence so far suggests the swine flu may have the potential to match a 1957 Asian flu

pandemic, which killed an estimated two million around the world. But it almost certainly won't have the lethal legs of the 1918 Spanish flu, which sent more than 50 million to their graves.

"I think I feel comfortable saying what I'm seeing thus far fits within what we've been planning for," Gardam says.

In Canada — and around the world — the disease almost certainly exists already in far larger numbers than we know. But it's not making people sick enough to see a doctor.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'What apology,' counsellor asks

ABUSE Statements of regret from the head of the Roman Catholic Church are too little, too late for residential school survivors struggling to rebuild shattered spiritual faith, says an Edmonton counsellor. "Apology? What apology?" Terry Lusty asked, his voice dripping with disdain.

Eight years of alleged brutal physical and mental abuse at the hands of staff at Winnipeg's St. Joseph's school were not countered by reprisal later in life, Lusty said, despite an attempt at reconciliation by Pope Benedict XVI yesterday.

During an address in St. Peter's Square, the Pope called rampant sexual abuse, involuntary sterilization and inhumane treatment suffered by Aboriginal schoolchildren between the 1880s and 1970s "deplorable conduct." But Lusty feels, the Pope didn't place



Phil Fontaine, leader of Canada's Assembly of the First Nations (AFN), attends Pope Benedict XVI's audience at the Vatican yesterday. A delegation met the Pope to discuss abuses inflicted on native children at schools in Canada run by the Catholic church.

any accountability on the Catholic Church.

"He should get his head out of the sand and quit living in denial," the 67-year-old insisted. "The Vatican should issue a formal apology in black and white."

Lusty works as a counsellor

with survivors at the Alberta Native Friendship Centre in Edmonton, and says local Anglican, Presbyterian and United Church groups have already committed to repairing confidence in spiritual leadership.

METRO CANADA

Law firm calls for travel disclosure

LABOUR In view of the WHO's Phase 5 alert yesterday, the Labour and Employment group at Calgary-based law firm McCarthy Tetraault is encouraging employers to consider introducing a policy requiring disclosure of personal employee travel to swine flu "hotspots."

They advise a return to work guideline that may require employees to absent themselves from the workplace and declare

whether or not they would be eligible for sick pay.

Paul Wearing, a Toronto-based employment and labour lawyer, said in certain conditions, departments of health "can direct and insist on staff absenting themselves if they have come down with a communicable disease."

"Entitlement to pay while on leave will depend on the precise language of the collective agreement," Wearing said.

In daycares and hospitals, there may be clauses in collective agreements that permit management to require staff to take sick leave, he added.

"Employers must be sensitive to employee rights to privacy and Human Rights Code considerations as well as employer obligations to maintain a safe work environment as per (occupational health and safety policies)," he added.

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At least 41 people were killed and 68 wounded yesterday when twin car bombs ripped through a busy market of Baghdad's Sadr City slum, mowing down families near a popular ice cream parlour, police said. A third car bomb planted in a taxicab was detonated by security forces, police said. **REUTERS**

Two car bombs kill dozens in Baghdad market

World



Berlusconi, wife in spat

Italy's first family soap opera was back on the front pages yesterday after Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's wife said his party's selection of women to run in European elections was a "shamelessly trashy" process. Veronica Lario, 52, said she agreed with descriptions of her husband's party's choice of female candidates as "entertainment for the emperor." **REUTERS**

News in brief

LONDON Two men cleared of helping to plot the London suicide bombings in July 2005 were jailed for seven years yesterday for planning to attend terrorist training camps in Pakistan. The duo was ruled not guilty Tuesday of helping the bombers scout targets. **REUTERS**

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WHO flu alert now at Phase 5

The World Health Organization yesterday raised the global flu alert level to 5, the second highest phase that indicates "a pandemic is imminent."

Nearly a week after the H1N1 virus, or swine flu, first emerged in California and Texas and was found to have caused up to 159 deaths in Mexico, Spain reported the first case in Europe in a person who had not been to Mexico, showing the danger of person-to-person transmission.

According to the WHO's guidelines, a Phase 5 alert is called when there is sustained human-to-human spread in at least two countries in one region.

The WHO's new alert acts as a signal to governments and businesses to

First U.S. death

• A Mexican toddler in Texas has died of the H1N1 flu strain, the first confirmed death outside Mexico from the virus.

take action, and to pharmaceutical companies to ramp up antiviral drug production and capacity.

Almost all cases outside of Mexico have had only light symptoms, and only a handful of cases have needed hospitalization.

But in Mexico, where up to 159 people have died from the virus and around 1,300 more are being tested, people struggled with an emergency that has brought normal life to a standstill. **REUTERS**



A passenger wears a protective mask upon arrival at Charles de Gaulle airport north of Paris yesterday. France will ask the European Union to suspend all flights going to Mexico due to the swine flu outbreak, officials announced yesterday.

Obama marks first 100 days

POLITICS U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday trumpeted the sharp break he has made from the Bush administration's policies in his whirlwind first 100 days but also expressed some caution about the future.

Obama has signaled a new approach on policies from the economy to climate change to U.S. relations with Iran as part of an agenda that both his supporters and critics describe as ambitious.

The popular president, whose approval ratings are above 60 per cent, used a town-hall event in Missouri to push initiatives on health care, education and the economy.

"We have begun to pick ourselves up and dust ourselves off and begun the work of remaking America," Obama said. **REUTERS**



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Comment & Views

Comment

He's just that into record collecting

Relating

Steve Collins

metronews.ca/collins

As my splendid colleague Andrea Woo wrote last week on the musical vetting potential of mates, "A man who has amassed shelves of classic vinyl records ... has invested time, money

and effort into something he is passionate about. A Top 40 fan, not so much." Point taken, but it strikes me those high fidelity hectares of vinyl could also serve as a warning.

This extends past music and into any of the obsessions (more kindly termed hobbies) guys have a propensity to develop, and whether it's hockey fanboyhood or political blogging, the degree of competition they exert for their attention can be considerable. (Gender generalizations are, as always, just

that. A buddy is a World of Warcraft widower, genially accustomed to his wife's extended virtual absences in the land of Azeroth).

Only the chronically single can truly afford the detritus that accumulates in the pursuit of the complete works of B-movie auteur Lloyd Kaufman or Star Wars action figures in the original packaging.

Once shack-up has occurred, or even once someone is sleeping over on a regular basis, this clutter, no matter how lovingly curated, will be subject to

On the web

For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

quiet or not-so-quiet assessments every spring cleaning season. The space a man's hobby occupies also testifies to the money, time and thought it soaks up, and suggests the degree to which it might be a rival for his affections.

One common solution is to set off a space where the treasured junk can be hoarded and worshipped

in peace. This, of course, ultimately threatens to turn you into one of those he-golfs-she-gardens couples, meeting briefly at meal-times and then again at bedtime — to sleep.

While it's always better if he can share his interests, it's also probably good policy to respect her indifference to the manifest brilliance of his fantasy baseball picks.

I still love loud, dumb music, D&D, and most everything else I surrounded myself with when I was 14 and there were no girls

around (and when I gave no thought to which was cause and which was effect).

My beloved properly takes no interest in these, and indulges and mocks my weird fixations in a combination I find frankly irresistible. Whatever my incurably uncool pursuits say about me, her endurance of them attests to her patience, sense of humour and general grooviness.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

Views

This ain't Flint – doom, gloom be damned



Scott Broderick

"What's with all the doom and gloom?"

This is the No. 1 question being asked by local business owners lately in reference to the media's role in this self-fulfilling prophecy called "the recession."

The epicentre of this crisis is clearly in the U.S. financial markets and automotive industry. There will certainly be shock waves felt throughout the world and Canada will not escape unscathed (just ask Oshawa, Ont.,

Oakville, Ont., and Windsor, Ont.)

To put it all in perspective, however, the Bank of Canada is predicting that, in 2009, our economy will dip approximately three per cent below the peak of the wealthiest and most prosperous period in the history of mankind.

Eight times (more than any other nation ever!), the UN has identified Canada as having the highest standard of living of any country in the world.

- Interest rates are at an all-time low.
- Gasoline prices and new vehicle incentives are more attractive than ever.

"So, what's with all the doom and gloom?"

About two months ago, listening to one of our own radio stations, I came to the realization that we are part of the problem. I arrived at work that day and went on a wild rant, but left committed to making a difference. The "This Ain't Flint" campaign is the result of that rant meeting inspiration.

We chose controversial images and content that contrasts our current situation in Ottawa to that of Flint, Mich., 20 years ago. Perhaps this campaign could just as easily have run in any one of Canada's major cities. Author Roy H. Williams says,

"The risk of insult is the price of clarity." That contrast and clarity is offered in Ottawa only to inspire meaningful conversation.

We don't expect to get agreement — just dialogue. We are not looking for consensus — just discourse.

Most people, however, will reach the utterly inescapable conclusion that, even now, they live in the finest country during one of the most prosperous periods in economic history.

Doom and gloom be damned!

Get out and enjoy it!

Scott Broderick is the director of Ontario operations for Newcap Radio.

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MICHAEL DEADOR

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U.S. airline shares rallied yesterday as markets decided that the swine flu outbreak might not significantly crimp travel demand. U.S. airlines said they have seen little impact from the flu, and no major carrier has reported cancelling flights because of it. **REUTERS**

U.S. airlines shrug off swine flu risks

Business



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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

In brief

TICKETS Ontario is going to try to stop the resale of tickets by Ticketmaster and its subsidiary TicketsNow, CBC News Online reports. Legislation amending Ontario's Ticket Speculation Act will "help ensure that Ontario consumers have fair access to entertainment tickets," according to a news release yesterday from the province's attorney general.

LAWSUIT McDonald's lost a lawsuit in Malaysia yesterday after an appeals court overruled a decision that its trademark had been infringed by a local restaurant called McCurry. McCurry serves Indian fast food and Malaysian dishes, according to the company website. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sweden CEO attacked



Police apprehend a woman after she attacked the chief executive officer of Swedish energy company Vattenfall, pouring a green colour over him at the firm's annual meeting in Stockholm yesterday. In the background are environmental demonstrators carrying a banner about Vattenfall's coal power plants.

Home prices decline

Report finds 4.1% national drop across 6 cities

Canadian home prices accelerated their fall in February, down 4.1 per cent from a year ago, according to a report issued yesterday.

The Teranet-National Bank National Composite House Price Index, which measures the rate of change of prices for single-family homes in six metropolitan areas, also showed prices were down 7.4 per cent nationally from the peak hit in August last year. Home prices fell 2.4 per cent in January from a year earlier.

"The disinflation that began in February 2008 is now a year old. The retreat means that, on the whole, the Canadian housing has be-

"Canadian housing has become a buyer's market after five years of seller's-market conditions."

Marc Pinsonneault, economist

come a buyer's market after five years of seller's-market conditions from 2002 to 2007," said Marc Pinsonneault, senior economist at National Bank Financial.

"Will home price deflation worsen in Canada to the extent it did in the U.S.? We do not believe so."

Home prices in Calgary suffered the biggest year-over-year drop, falling 8.1 per cent in February from the same month a year ago. That was followed by a 6.4 per cent slide in Vancouver and a five per cent decline in Toronto.

Halifax joined the list of markets with falling home prices with a 0.5 per cent dip.

Meanwhile, home prices rose 3.2 per cent in Montreal from a year earlier, and were up 2.8 per cent in Ottawa.

Market watchers say current price declines are part of an ongoing retreat since the market hit its peak in 2007.

REUTERS

Maple Leaf posts profit, but says scandal fallout lingers

FOOD Maple Leaf Foods, one of Canada's largest food processors, reported a quarterly profit yesterday but the effects of last summer's costly recall of tainted meat lingered on.

Even though revenue and profit rose in its latest quarter, the company said its profit margins continued to be hurt by the meat scandal, which resulted in 22 deaths.

"Results in the first quarter were overshadowed by depressed margins in our packaged-meat operations, as we continue to recover from the major product recall last year," Michael McCain, president and chief executive, said in a release.

"While volumes improved, which was our first priority, margins will take longer to restore."

"While volumes improved, which was our first priority, margins will take longer to restore."

Michael McCain, Maple Leaf CEO

Maple Leaf said it earned \$2.9 million, or two cents a share, for the first quarter ended March 31, compared with a loss of \$10,000, or nil per share, for the same period a year earlier.

Revenue rose 6.7 per cent to \$1.28 billion.

The company said it planned to implement measures to improve margins, including cutting internal costs and reducing promotions.

REUTERS

Flu could hurt wireless revenue, Rogers says

TELECOM Rogers Communications Inc. said yesterday that the spread of swine flu could dent revenue at its wireless unit if travel restrictions prevent its mobile phone subscribers from ringing up costly roaming charges.

"To the extent that we see the swine flu accelerating, I think we can expect to see some softening in roaming revenues," Rob

Precedent

Bruce said that Rogers saw a "noticeable impact" on roaming revenue on its network during the 2003 SARS epidemic and something similar is likely if the swine flu outbreak persists.

Bruce, the head of the company's wireless divi-

sion, told analysts.

Travel restrictions aimed at halting the growth of swine flu around the world could mean fewer foreigners accruing roaming charges on Rogers' network and fewer Rogers subscribers using other networks abroad, squeezing a potential source of additional revenue for the company.

REUTERS

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Ted Reynolds dead at 83

Longtime Canadian sports broadcaster and CBC veteran Ted Reynolds died early Tuesday. He was 83. Reynolds' work included radio and television, play-by-play for 23 sports and 10 Olympic Games. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

9

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONews.CA

Bolt OK after car crash

Olympic champion sprinter Usain Bolt was not seriously injured after a car accident yesterday. Bolt and a female passenger were taken to a hospital in Spanish Town, Jamaica, but both were fine, according to police. Bolt was apparently driving on a rain-slicked highway when he lost control of the BMW M3 and it went off the road. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Hawks cool down Heat

NBA

2009 Playoffs

Joe Johnson finished with 25 points, six rebounds and six assists to help the Atlanta Hawks crush the Miami Heat, 106-91, and take control in the teams' Eastern Conference quarterfinal series.

With the Game 5 win, the Hawks took a 3-2 lead in the matchup, which continues tomorrow in Miami. Atlanta is now a Game 6 victory away from winning its first playoff series since 1999.

Flip Murray came off the bench to score 23 points for fourth-seeded Atlanta, which also got 20 points and eight boards from Josh Smith. However, the Hawks lost centre Al Hor-



Official Dick Bavetta steps between Miami's Dwyane Wade, right, and Canadian Jamaal Magloire, and Flip Murray of the Hawks after Wade fouled hard last night.

ford to a first-half ankle sprain.

Horford, who ended with four rebounds and three points, landed on his right leg and dropped to the floor before going to the locker room.

He did not return, and his status for Game 6 is un-

certain. Dwyane Wade, who temporarily left the contest in the first quarter

after hitting his head on the court, had 29 points to pace fifth-seeded Miami.

With the 15-point differential in last night's contest, all five games in this series so far have been decided by double digits. Game 4, an 81-71 Hawks win, has been the closest margin. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

For a recap of Game 5 of the Hornets/Nuggets series, visit metronews.ca

Howard suspended one

NBA

2009 Playoffs

NBA Orlando Magic centre Dwight Howard was assessed a one-game suspension by the NBA on Wednesday for his actions in the team's 91-78 win Tuesday over the Philadelphia 76ers in Game 5 of their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series.

The Orlando superstar will miss Game 6 of the series tonight at the Wachovia Center in Philly.

Howard was given a technical foul with 9:15 remaining in the first quarter

when he elbowed 76ers centre Samuel Dalembert of Montreal in the head.

The two got tangled up going for a rebound in the first quarter. Replays showed Howard threw an elbow that hit the Canadian above the shoulders. Howard drew a technical foul for the hit.

The Magic lead the best-of-seven series 3-2. Game 7, if necessary, will be played on Saturday at Amway Arena in Orlando.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Alexander Ovechkin and Evgeni Malkin appear to like each other again. The same can't be said for other Caps and Pens.

A one-rink circus?

STANLEY CUP

2009 Playoffs

NHL Alex Ovechkin doesn't like Sidney Crosby. Neither does Alexander Semin. Ovechkin disliked Evgeni Malkin, too, but now appears to like him again.

Yet there's much to like in this Pittsburgh-Washington matchup, beginning Saturday when the Eastern semifinal series begins in Washington.

Capitals coach Bruce Boudreau compared it to the circus.

The main attraction is flashy — the NHL's three biggest names under one big top for up to two weeks — but the sideshows are

Russian trifecta

A trio of Russians — Alex Ovechkin of the Capitals, Evgeni Malkin of the Penguins and Pavel Datsyuk of the Red Wings — were named as finalists for the Hart Trophy as the NHL's most valuable player yesterday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

intriguing and figure to be entertaining.

With the NHL's last two MVPs and last three scoring champions in the same series, plus a noticeable edginess whenever the teams meet, there should be plenty of subplots and sound bites.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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Man-U takes first leg

SOCCER John O'Shea's early goal put Manchester United in control of their Champions League semi-final against Arsenal with a 1-0 first-leg win at Old Trafford yesterday. The holders scored in the 17th minute when Irish defender O'Shea rifled in a half-volley from eight yards after

Michael Carrick had turned Anderson's deep corner back across goal.

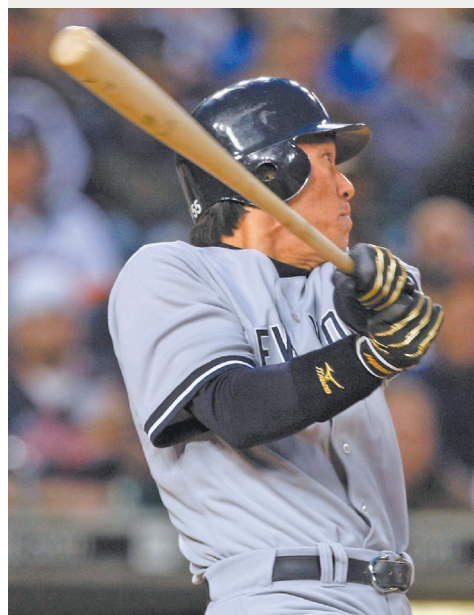
United dominated the match and can feel they should be travelling to next week's second leg at the home of their Premier League rivals with a greater advantage.

REUTERS



Abou Diaby of Arsenal battles with Darren Fletcher.

AL Yanks beat Tigers



The Yankees' Hideki Matsui follows through on a three-run double during the fourth inning against the Detroit Tigers last night. The Yankees won 8-6.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

TONIGHT'S GAME

Chicago at Vancouver

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 106 Miami 91

New Orleans at Denver

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Boston at Chicago

Orlando at Philadelphia

Portland at Houston

MLB

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Chicago White Sox 6 Seattle 3

L.A. Angels 3 Baltimore 2

N.Y. Yankees 8 Detroit 6

Oakland at Texas PPD

Boston at Cleveland

Tampa Bay at Minnesota

Toronto at Kansas City

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Arizona 10 Chicago Cubs 0

Colorado 7 San Diego 5

Florida 4 N.Y. Mets 3

Milwaukee 1 Pittsburgh 0

Washington at Philadelphia

St. Louis at Atlanta

Houston at Cincinnati

L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco

Huskie's skill draws CFL attention

Darcy Brown projected to be picked in CFL draft despite unusual background

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

After a quick glance at the Saint Mary's Huskies' roster, you might think Darcy Brown's entry has a misprint.

There aren't many six-foot-three, 251-pound receivers at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport level, and there certainly aren't many six-foot-three, 251-pound receivers with only eight catches garnering attention for the Canadian Football League draft.

But Brown is. Teams envision converting Brown to the fullback position and there is a good chance he will be selected in the mid-to-late rounds of Saturday's annual event.

"I guess they can't really justify putting a 250-pound receiver out there," said Brown, who has always been a receiver other than a half season as a running back in Grade 10.

"I'm willing to do whatever they want me to do. I haven't been trained by



Saint Mary's Huskies receiver Darcy Brown is projected as a mid-to-late round pick in Saturday's CFL draft, despite having only eight catches and being six-foot-three and 251 pounds.

coaches to be a fullback but I'm willing to learn as much as they want to teach me."

Saint Mary's boasted the nation's best rushing attack last year and receivers such as Brown took a backseat. On his eight

catches, he accumulated just one touchdown and 75 yards.

So when the CFL was dialing numbers to invite prospects to its March evaluation camp, Brown didn't expect to get a call.

"I was surprised to hear

I'd been invited," he said. "I figured once I got the call I'd show up in the best shape I could and do whatever I could to get noticed by the scouts."

Brown made a big impression at the combine, matching the strongest de-

fensive linemen and running backs with 23 reps on the 225-pound bench press. He also showcased a 35-inch vertical leap and ran 40 yards in 4.68 seconds.

Huskies head coach Steve Sumarah said he has fielded a number of calls from CFL teams interested in Brown.

"From a physical standpoint, Darcy has always had the tools," Sumarah said.

"He impressed everyone at the draft combine. He was big and fast and strong and with all those things, he put himself in position to get drafted."

The Huskies have several other players eligible for the draft. Among them, rookie running back Devon Jones — revealed as draft-eligible only recently because he attended a U.S. college in 2005 — could generate interest.

Acadia receiver Matt Carter is ranked fourth and St. F.X. offensive lineman Steve Myddelton is No. 13.

Carquest tour adds mini-series

RACING The Carquest Pro Stock Tour will introduce a mini-series dubbed the Triple Crown to this summer's racing schedule.

The Triple Crown will be comprised of three of the tour's premier events: The IWK 250 at Riverside International Speedway in James River, Antigonish Co., on July 18; the Atlantic Cat 250 at Scotia Speedway on Aug. 8; and the Peterbilt 250 at Speedway 660 near Fredericton, N.B., on Aug. 22.

There is more than \$250,000 in purse money up for grabs for the three events, plus an additional \$50,000 handed out as a bonus if a driver is able to sweep all three events.

More than 35 drivers have indicated they will race on the Carquest tour this summer, with the season getting underway on May 23 with the Lucas Oil 100 at Scotia Speedway.

Defending champion Wayne Smith of Timberlea as well as podium finishers Lonnie Sommerville and Enfield's Shawn Turple are expected to be back on the circuit.

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Homesense Spring and Summer line

New lines of home decor items and motifs have arrived at Homesense stores across the country. Seen here are some pillows and high-gloss frames from the new "Sleeping Patterns" line. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Metro Homes

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Furnished basement evolution

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz

metronews.ca/homescape

The basement started out with a dirt floor. It may even have been a crawl space that was used as a food cellar, a place to store potatoes and onions and preserves over the winter.

Then the dirt floor was covered up with concrete, but it was still a scary place, where the huge, fiery-eyed furnace hulked in the shadows and made funny noises. One or two bare bulbs barely lit the space. Often, low ceilings forced you to slouch. Sometimes, children were sent into the basement as punishment because it was such a frightening and unpleasant place.

But those days are over, thank goodness. At some point, people began to consider the basement's potential as more than a setting for a scary novel or a creepy movie. After all, it could increase your living space by a full floor, giving you lots more room to spread out. Who could resist?

By the time I arrived on the scene, a finished basement looked exactly like the one depicted in late

1970's Wayne's World skits — the infamous "rec" (wreck?) room of my youth. Some of you may remember the wall-to-wall shag carpeting, the wood paneling on every wall and the well-worn matching plaid sofa and armchair?

Precisely because of its slovenly charms, we teenagers would automatically head down to the basement. Here in this forgiving space, we could hang out undisturbed, watch TV, and eat snacks without fear of messing up the fussier spaces upstairs.

But things have changed in the world of finished basements. The ante has been upped, and the finished basement is becoming elegant and stylish. It looks more like a bona fide part of the house, no longer the make-do space it used to be.

The design is often customized, and people are designing with their hobbies in mind.

But before you go off and renovate, make sure you tackle the three scourges of finished basements—dampness, lack of light and lack of warmth. Remember that a basement is, in fact, built into a hole in the earth and you must come up with ways to get around the natural disadvantages inherent in this reality.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in decor and design. She's written for the TV show Arresting Design; sputz@arrestingdesign.com.

Low down on the underground

- Most important is the requirement for a dry basement. Guard at all times against seeping or flooding water during times of excessive rainfall, since this can thoroughly ruin finishes. Get waterproofing if you need it, and use floor insulation that allows drainage.
- A dark dingy basement with small high windows is also undesirable, so basement renovators often consider larger or

additional windows to make the space feel less like a basement. If budgets do not allow this, make sure to put in adequate artificial lighting, so the space feels inviting.

- While coolness may be lovely in the summer, a cold basement during the cooler seasons will quickly send everybody upstairs. Also consider a gas or electric fireplace that heats the air when needed.

Averting a real disaster on deck

Bryan Baeumler is host of Disaster DIY: Cottage Edition, airing tonight at 9 p.m. on HGTV. Visit

hgtv.ca/disasterdiy for streamed episodes.

It's not very often I have the time or energy to grab

my paddle and head out on the lake in a canoe — but for a week of authentic Italian cooking, wine, women and song, I'm in! I got a frantic call from Rosie, concerned that her Mom, Pearl, was dangerously close to falling through her aging deck at the cottage. You may ask yourself, "what do kindling, duct tape, red paint, a few pizza oven stones and a car jack have in common?" Pearl thinks this random assortment of items — precisely positioned and properly utilized — serve as a life-support system for her ailing deck. She also believes that a coat of paint — mak-

DisasterDIY

Bryan Baeumler

HGTV host

ing her deck look good, also provides a quick-fix solution to its deteriorating condition.

Watch tonight's episode where we fix up this deck and make sure Pearl will be safe and sound.

Bryan Baeumler is host of Disaster DIY: Cottage Edition. The show airs Thursdays at 9 p.m. on HGTV.



Colourful accents

- Homesense's new Spring and Summer line also includes such finds as these decorative glass accents, right, and their patent stow-storage ottoman, below.



Disaster DIY host Bryan Baeumler and his team take on a deck in dire need of repairs on tonight's episode.

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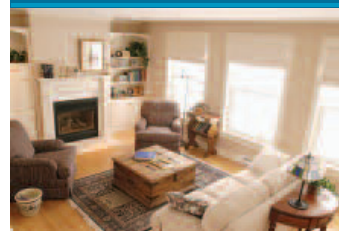
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CISTA rain barrel

Get ready to replace those bulky rain barrels with a water-conserving tank like no other. CISTA is a sleek, modern rain barrel set to hit stores in spring 2010.

The vertical barrel fits onto your home's eaves and can hold up to 100 gallons of water. By storing the water upright, enough pressure is created to allow for a soaker hose to be connected. As an added feature, an LED light clearly indicates the water level in the tank, so you know when it's full.

What makes this rain barrel different?

The sleek design fits in narrow spaces — perfect for city dwellers. The cover on the tank can also be camouflaged with natural plantings. A vine, such as ivy or morning glory, will wind its way up the barrel to create a visually pleasing yet completely functional appliance.

For further details and to get all the latest news on CISTA, visit moss-sund.com

—PRODUCED BY
KARINA LEIMANIS



Outside Decor

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A tough nut to crack

In 1919 the 36th Texas Legislature made the pecan the state tree. In southeast Texas, the Texas Pecan Festival is celebrated every year. "Pecan" is from an Algonquian word, meaning a nut requiring a stone to crack. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Food

Although popularly referred to as a nut, the almond is not a true nut, but the seed of a drupe (a botanical name for a category of fruit).

METRO NEWS SERVICES

**Foreigner**

The word walnut derives from Old English "wealhnutu," literally "foreign nut." The walnut was so called because it was introduced from Gaul and Italy.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

A handful of sweet heat

À la carte**Barb Holland**

metronews.ca/alacarte

Nuts and seeds not only add flavour and texture to just about any dish, they are nutrient dense and provide an array of beneficial nutrients such as protein, vitamin E, folate, calcium, magnesium, copper, zinc, iron and fibre.

Walnuts are a great source of mega-3 fatty acid and are rich in antioxidants. Almonds are high in calcium, magnesium,

potassium and vitamin E. Peanuts are higher in protein and niacin than most other nuts and rich in folate. Pecans have a very high antioxidant content. As well, nuts and seeds contain protein, especially when combined with legumes such as peas, beans and lentils.

And yes, nuts contain fat, and while it is mostly healthy-for-your-heart fat, the calories do add up.

One serving is 1 oz. (30 g) which is a small handful, about ¼ cup (60 ml) and that's about 175 calories and 16 g of fat. So practise portion control and top your cereal, yogurt, salad or pasta with a sprinkle of nuts or seeds for a healthy crunch.

- 1 tsp (5 ml) ground cumin
- 1/2 to 1 tsp (2 - 5 ml) cayenne
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt

METHOD:

In a bowl, lightly beat egg white. Add nuts and stir until nuts are evenly moistened. Combine brown sugar, cumin, cayenne and

salt; sprinkle over walnuts and toss well to coat evenly.

Spread nuts on parchment paper lined rimmed baking sheet. Bake in preheated 325 F (160 C) oven 25 to 30 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes to separate nuts, until coating is crisp and nuts are fragrant. Cool before serving.

Tips:

- Buy nuts and seeds where there is a high turnover for freshness.
- Store in an air-tight container in the refrigerator for up to 6 months or freeze for up to 1 year.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

"And yes, nuts contain fat, and while it is mostly healthy-for-your-heart fat, the calories do add up ... So practise portion control and top your cereal, yogurt, salad or pasta."

Sweet & Spicy Nuts

Sweet with a bit of heat, they can be addictive. The amount of cayenne is up to you. Makes 2 cups (500 ml).

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 egg white, lightly beaten
- 2 cups (500 ml) walnut or pecan halves
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) brown sugar

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Charred Atlantic Salmon, double smoked bacon carbonara sauce, sweet potato wedges, \$29.

Located on the Halifax waterfront, this downtown restaurant is without a doubt one of the best in the city. The menu offers three courses, plus dessert, with highlights including a wonderful lobster and sweet potato chowder for \$12 and a filet mignon with a half roasted lobster and truffle mashed potatoes for \$36.



Sweet with a hint of spice, these nuts can be addictive.

The whole story on whole grains

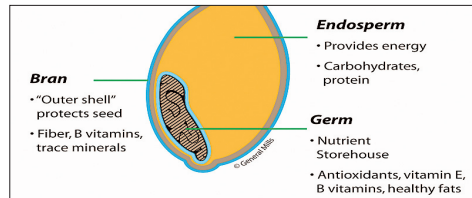
Most Canadians do not get enough whole grains in their diet. Nor are they aware of the health advantages of eating whole grains rather than just looking for high fibre foods.

What are whole grains?

Imagine a kernel of grain, such as a kernel of wheat. As the name implies, when you eat a whole grain, you are eating the whole kernel which has three parts — the endosperm, the bran and the germ. The endosperm makes up about 80 per cent of the kernel and is a source of carbohydrate and protein. The bran provides fibre, vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals and the germ provides vitamins, protein and phytochemicals. Whole grains provide lots more than just fibre.

What are some examples of whole grains?

Examples of whole grains include whole



wheat, whole oats, whole-grain corn, popcorn, brown rice, whole rye, whole-grain barley, bulgur (cracked wheat) and millet. The fibre content of grains can vary greatly. For example, whole wheat provides a lot fibre whereas brown rice provides very little.

What is the difference between whole wheat and whole grain?

"Whole grain" contains all three parts of the grain kernel—the endosperm, bran and germ. "Whole wheat" food products may contain only the endosperm and bran. "Enriched wheat flour" contains the endosperm. Some of the nutrients that are

lost in the milling of wheat are added back in by law.

What are the health advantages of whole grains?

Whole grains contain vitamins, minerals and literally hundreds of phytonutrients, including phytoestrogens, antioxidants and phenols. Research shows that a diet rich in whole grains may help reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and supports the link between whole grains and a decreased risk in overall mortality.

You can learn more about whole grains by visiting areyougettingenough.ca.

NEWS CANADA

Liquid Assets**Peter Rockwell**

metronews.ca/liquidassets

Movie mates

My suggestion to match wine and a DVD rental a couple of weeks ago had many of you asking what goes best with movie munchies.

I'm a potato chip fan from way back so a bowl full of salt-laden, deep fried spud shavings is my favourite snackable when I pop in a disc. Excessive saltiness in anything can be a wine killer but the bubbly goodness of a sparkling wine cleanses the palate and works wonders with even the simplest of dishes.

The **Jacob's Creek Chardonnay Pinot Noir (\$13.65 - \$16.99)** from Down Under is an ideal when-in-doubt wine that goes with just about anything (including a plate of nachos or a big bag of Cheezies) with its champagne styling and smooth berry fruit undertones.

Of course popcorn is the classic movie mate and its wine partner is dictated by whether you pour on the butter or prefer your Orville Redenbacher naked. Any dry white will do if you pass on the topping but butter fans should reach for a glass of something that mimics the creaminess on the kernels like **Mission Hill's Reserve Chardonnay (\$18.99 - \$21.99)** from British Columbia. Now if only finding a decent flick to watch was as easy.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.



Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.



Canada's first sustainable sushi guide helps consumers protect threatened marine species while satisfying their cravings for delicious sushi. The wallet-sized card is available online at seachoice.org/page/guides, where sushi lovers can print or order copies for free. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

French made elegantly simple

TV host Laura Calder gives French cuisine a lighter and approachable flair

French food has an intimidating reputation. Delicious and spectacular, yes, but also complicated, time-consuming, rich for today's tastes and requiring a professional chef's arsenal of techniques and equipment.

Not so! Laura Calder, host of Food Network Canada's hit program *French Food at Home*, has a different approach, and she's here to show you that French food is easier, lighter and even more wonderful than you ever imagined.

French Taste (HarperCollins Canada) focuses on modern French home cooking, keeping all of the flavour and flair of classic cuisine but making it simpler and fresher. Over 100 recipes cover regional and traditional favourites, such as *Tian of Provençal Vegetables* and *Poule au Pot*, together with quick, modern meals like *Tuna in a Black Poppyseed Crust*, and dishes that reflect the multicultural influences in today's France, such as *Chicken Tagine*.

In addition to recipes, Calder provides delightful *pensées* — wonderful short essays on everything from enjoying the act of cooking, to entertaining with easy grace, to learning how to shop for fine cheese without fear.

Metro got a hold of this

wonderfully simple recipe that delights the eyes as much as the tongue.

(Taken from *French Taste* © 2009 by Laura Calder. Published by HarperCollins Publishers Ltd. All rights reserved.)

Accordion Potatoes

A woman I once cooked with in the south of France taught me this method for potatoes, and I still love to make them when I'm in the mood for a little fun. All you do is slice potatoes, without cutting through all the way, so that the slices remain hinged at the bottom. When the potatoes bake, the slices get crisp and golden, fanning out slightly like leaves in a book, like a jewelry box for rings, like the folds of a gypsy's accordion ... However you want to think of them, they're awfully cute.

Makes 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

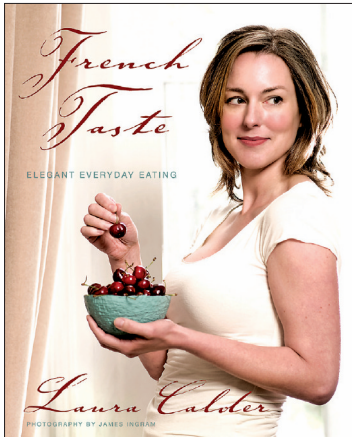
- 2 pounds (900 g) medium-small potatoes, such as Yukon Gold or red potatoes
- Bay leaves and thyme sprigs

- Salt and pepper
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) olive oil
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) melted butter

METHOD:

Heat the oven to 375°F (190°C). Cut the potatoes crosswise, as for hard-cooked eggs, into slices no thicker than your finger, but cut only about three-quarters of the way through.

Lay the herbs between a few of the folds. Arrange the potatoes on a baking sheet, and season with salt and pepper. Drizzle with oil and melted butter, and bake until golden and crisp on the outside and soft inside, 45 minutes to an hour.



These Accordion Potatoes are "awfully cute," says cookbook author Laura Calder.

Island dreamin': Turn that rainy frown upside down

A taste of sunny Jamaica is the perfect harbinger of summer ahead as we struggle through the growing pains of spring. Fragrant pineapple rings and white cake scented with lime upgrade this comfort-food favourite.

Adapted from Lucinda's Authentic Jamaican Kitchen by Lucinda Scala Quinn. You can cut rings

from a fresh pineapple, but they are bigger and messier than the canned slices.

Jamaican pineapple upside-down cake

Makes 8 to 10 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) packed

dark brown sugar

- 14 oz (400 mL) can pineapple slices
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) pecan halves
- 1-1/3 cups (315 ml) all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup (180 ml) granulated sugar
- 2 tsp (10 ml) baking powder
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 3/4 cup (180 ml) whole milk
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- Finely grated zest of 1 lime
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) lime juice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) vanilla extract

METHOD:

Melt butter in 10-inch, cast-iron skillet on medium heat. Remove from burner. Sprinkle in brown sugar evenly. Arrange pineapple slices in pan. (Probably 7 of the 8 rings



Fragrant pineapple rings and white cake scented with lime upgrade this comfort-food favourite.

in the can.) Arrange pecans over top, especially in spaces around pineapple rings.

In large bowl, whisk together flour, granulated sugar, baking powder and salt. Add milk and oil. Beat

with electric mixer on medium speed 1 minute. Scrape bowl. Add egg, zest, juice and vanilla. Beat just until well combined.

Pour batter evenly over pineapple in pan. Bake in preheated 350F oven until

tester inserted into centre of cake comes out clean and top of cake is golden, 25 to 30 minutes. Let sit 5 minutes. Carefully invert onto circular platter. Eat warm or at room temperature.

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Single women spoiling themselves

New studies show more and more single women who are saying "I do" have the money to spoil myself with a new diamond ring. In fact, one study shows 65 per cent of jewelry bought by single women are rings, or "right hand rings" as they're being called. **NEWS CANADA**

Style



The fashion challenge

CosmoTV is set to air *The Fashion Show*, a new fashion design competition series, this May. Produced by Bravo, the show will be co-hosted by internationally acclaimed designer Isaac Mizrahi (pictured, left) and performer/actress Kelly Rowland. It will feature two weekly challenges for designers: the Harper's Bazaar Mini Challenge, judged by the magazine's special projects director Laura Brown; and the elimination challenge. The show will air on May 11. Check your local listings for times. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Fabulously fake pearls of wisdom

Fashion classic returns with a flashy, punkish twist

This season, ladylike pearls get punk'd.

As this fashion classic makes a return engagement, those creamy-coloured beads are the sized of gum balls, strung on thick silk ribbons or intertwined with cascades of punkish chains. This is not your grandmother's necklace.

"Pearls used to be a love token. Your husband gave you pearls or your grandmother bequeathed you her pearls," says vintage costume jewelry connoisseur Carole Tanenbaum. "But the love token has been pushed aside and the rock star of pearls has emerged."

And, like the star they have become, they are gloriously, fabulously fake and begging to be noticed.

If you had to zero in on the moment when faux pearls were poised for a comeback, it would have to be last summer's blockbuster chick flick *Sex and the City*. Retailers and designers sat in cineplexes to see what their four

favourite were wearing. And there it was, looking suddenly new and fresh on Carrie, who was wearing a long strand of pearls in an insouciant way — to bed. Sure enough, by the time September and October rolled around and designers were showing their spring/summer 2009 collections, tricked-out faux-pearl necklaces were seen on several runways, from Luella Bartley in London to Moschino in Milan to Alber Elbaz at Lanvin in Paris.

But props must be given to Elbaz for diligently giving pearls a makeover. For the past several seasons, ever since he wrapped his pearls in tulle and strung them on a necklace, the designer has been working the pearl necklace in increasingly innovative yet delectably ultra-feminine ways. This season, his pearls are strung on his trademark thick silk ribbons.

Fashion's newest "It"

"The love token has been pushed aside and the rock star of pearls has emerged."

Carole Tanenbaum, costume jewelry connoisseur

girl seemed to have picked up a pendant for pearls, too.

Michelle Obama's necklaces have been anything

but the traditional dowdy kind favoured by past first ladies.

Her pearls have included a simple strand of ping-

pong-sized balls and a heavily, multi-strand necklace by jewelry designer Tom Binns.

Everyone has fallen in love with pearls again, it seems.

"I can't tell you how many we've sold for spring. It has been crazy," says jewellery designer Rita Dobberstein, whose line, Rita D., is also sold in the U.S. and Europe.

Inspired by the '40s, Dobberstein mixed giant pearls with cascades of chains for a look that she calls "punk meets Mad Max with a bit of rock 'n' roll."

It was time to do it differently, said the Toronto designer. The look she created "caters to a different kind of customer, someone edgy perhaps, who never thought they would wear pearls," she adds.

Dobberstein says that while she has dabbled with pearls in her career of more than 20 years, she

Necklace with pendant, \$30, Aldo Accessories.

has never sold as many as she has this year, and she'll continue using them in her fall collection.

But why do fashionistas seem to be going off the deep end for pearls right now? After all, the world is hardly their oyster at the moment.

"In low economic times like these, women need something to cheer themselves," says Tanenbaum. And these bigger styles make them happy," says Tanenbaum. "And pearls always make a statement."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Life's too short to sit on boring chairs.



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This season unites handbags and shoes

Handbag, meet your long-lost sibling, footwear.

It's been a long time since shoes and bags have paired up in matching colours and materials. But this spring, the two are about to be reacquainted, trotting out together harmoniously as a perfectly matched set.

Back in 1997, a little bag named the Fendi Baguette struck out on its own and became a sensation, a move that sparked the phenomenon of the "It" bag.

Soon other designer bags were doing solo shows with oversized logos, heavy hardware and a riotous mix of gewgaws. Suddenly every

season, there seemed to be a new "It" bag. And designers and retailers quickly learned that this exciting, sexy category gave new meaning to the phrase "moneybags," as it filled company coffers. Shoes were, well, left trailing behind.

Helping to widen the gap between shoes and bags was a weekly fashion "magazine" called *Sex and the City*, a show that celebrated maximalist fashion — clothes and accessories that revelled in a mix-it-any-which-way and pile-it-all-on exuberance. It sparked a way of dressing in which no

one wanted anything that even remotely matched. It looked modern and showed confidence to play mixmaster.

Then came the backlash against "It" bags. Customers grew tired of the rapid turnover, the exorbitant prices and the scarily authentic-looking knock-offs. As fashion went looking for the next "It" thing, shoes stepped forward from the wings like an understudy waiting for a moment in the spotlight.

And what a performance it was. In the past year, shoes rose to outlandish

heights, figuratively and literally. Heels were skyscraper-high, architectural-sculpted and fantastically surreal.

Shoes were items whose very existence was based on functionality, but the question of whether you could walk in them became irrelevant. When models — people who walk for a living — were tumbling like bowling pins on the runways, it looked like the incredible shoe gig might be up.

The slowing economy expedited the trend away from all this exuberance. In just the past few months,



A pair that makes a strong statement: Spring's Highlands ranch shoe, \$39.99 and Brech clutch, \$24.99. Visit myspringshoes.com for more details.

the world has become a different place. And fashion has realized that a single outfit can only support so many outrageous accessories. Women are weary of the mashup.

Once again, handbags and shoes are ready to share the limelight as ensemble players. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

FlareFashion

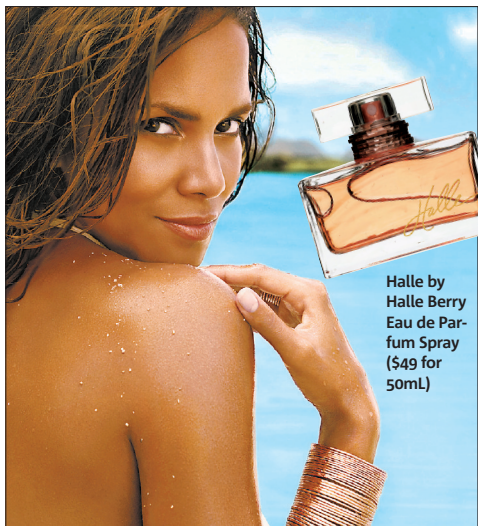
Lisa Tant

Read the blog at metronews.ca/flarefashion

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Halle Berry
Eau de Par-
fum Spray
(\$49 for
50mL)

Star Scent

Halle Berry joins the cast of celebrity noses.

By KRISTEN VINAKMENS
Contributing Writer

At nine years old, Halle Berry fancied herself a perfumer. She used to sneak into the bathroom and mix her mother's two favourite fragrances, Youth-Dew and Coco Chanel, to create her very own perfume. Blending her own fragrances is something the Oscar-winning actress has continued to do. "I've always wanted to wear something that nobody else is

wearing," explains Berry. So, it makes sense that the actress would launch a perfume of her own: Halle by Halle Berry.

At the New York press launch, the actress and new mom describes how she took two years off to develop the fragrance. "Ten years ago, I was so focused on my career," says Berry. "Then I decided that I wanted to have a family. Fragrance was something I've always wanted to do, and I knew that if I put my name on something, I had to put time into it. This is like my second baby."

During her time off, Berry was busy developing the per-

fume and having her first baby, daughter Nahla, with Canadian boyfriend Gabriel Aubry, whom she met while shooting a Versace campaign. "Being pregnant helped me because I got a sense of what I liked and what I didn't like," she says. "I've never felt more sensual and connected to the earth."

For his part, Aubry served as an unofficial guinea pig. "During the testing phase, I would ask Gabriel for his opinion," she says. "He really had to like it because I wear this now. It had to be something that he found sexy—and he loves it."

SWEET SHOP

Lighten up with pretty pastels as sweet as spun sugar.

EXPERT Jenia O'Connor, freelance makeup artist • Apply a tinted moisturizer, and then dust translucent powder down the centre of the face and across the forehead. • Dab a peachy-pink cream blush on the apples of the cheeks. • Apply white-gold eyeshadow in the inner corner of the eyes, across the centre of the eyelids, and in the centre of the upper lip to create the illusion of a fuller pout. • Curl lashes, and apply one coat of black or brown mascara.

Clinique Blushwear
Cream Stick in
Peachy Blush
(\$21.50)



Nars Single
Eyeshadow
in Baby Girl
(\$26)

M.A.C Tricolour
Lipglass in
Consume Me (\$21)

Editors' Pick

SUN DANCE

A vintage photo of Katharine Hepburn returning from a day at the beach inspired the sun-kissed skin and red lips seen at Michael Kors. Normally reserved for fall, this vivid red mouth looks easy and fresh when paired with glowing skin. Sweep a bronzing powder on cheeks, nose and other places where the sun naturally hits, and fill in subtly lined lips with a moisturizing lipstick.

YSL Rouge
Pur in
Blazing
Red (\$35)



AFRICAN GLAM

Parisian flair goes tribal



Resin-bead necklaces,
Rosemary Hedges
(\$60 each, 514-937-7045)

Print silk
blouse (\$89,
at Mango)



Platform leather
and wood sandals
(\$135, at Aldo)



Metal hoop
earring, Modes
Chivas (\$35, 514-
389-7166)



Silk wrap skirt,
Hoss Intropia
(\$435, 1-877-
281-2399)



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linen shoulder bag,
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(\$250, highfashion
handbag@bellent.ca)

BEST IN SHOE

Before becoming a footwear designer, Beth Levine, with her dainty size 4B feet, worked as a shoe model. Her dream, however, was to make fashionable shoes that fit well. With her husband, marketing whiz Herbert Levine, she made boots, mules and stiletto heels that were must-have fashion accessories. In Beth Levine Shoes, Helene Verin has amassed photographs of Levine's designs and written the first biography of the woman who designed shoes for Nancy Sinatra.



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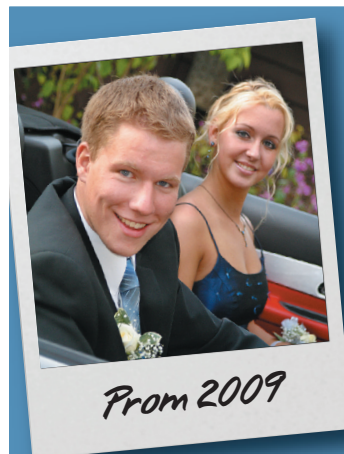


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Lil Wayne launches suit

Lil Wayne has filed a lawsuit against a producer who he claims used a sample for a song without permission. According to the suit, Wayne's lawyers claim Rock Productions produced the rapper's song I Feel Like Dying and was responsible for obtaining any necessary licensing agreements. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONWS.CA

Life's good for Dylan

Bob Dylan

Album: Together Through Life
Label: Columbia/Sony
Rating: ♂♂♂♂

THESE ARE DIFFICULT times in which we live, especially for those of us peeking around the far corner of life. We're watching the landscapes in which we grew up turn to rust and finding the dark side of the people with whom we've entrusted our dreams. Whether by plan or coincidence, the poet grapples here with a grey-world that seems barren of meaning or answers. The song titles of the opening tracks — Beyond Here Lies Nothin', Life Is Hard,

(Hell Is) My Wife's Home-town — relate a foreboding but familiar story. With the help of Grateful Dead lyricist Robert Hunter, Dylan presents us with a script for the late stages of life, blemished and filled with bitterness. He offers it up in the only way his ragged, grating voice can still sound vital — as a blues singer (with credit to Willie Dixon), howling at forces we've never been able to control. And the blues come easy to his always-expert band, buoyed by the accordion of Los Lobo David Hidalgo and accented by the caustic guitar of Mike Campbell. But there's always hope, even with Dylan, even in these troubled times. As the closing track of the album states, It's All Good.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Patrick Watson

Album: Wooden Arms
Label: Secret City Recordings
Rating: ♂♂♂♂

THIS IS ONE of those arty records that many people "in the know" will pay homage to, but few will actually listen to more than once. It's the sort of thing you pull out late at night when you're stuck at home and the rain is hammering against the window. Watson is a fine pianist and he's got some extraordinary musicians backing him up, especially drummer Robbie Kuster and guitarist Simon Angell. There are patches of brilliance throughout this



MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

ambitious piece of chamber pop. But Watson, who won the Polaris Music Prize in 2007, deals more with atmospheric than melody. Fluttering violins, dancing harps and cartoon sound effects are all nice, but only the country-flavoured Big Bird In A Small Cage really breaks through. And that's due to an infectious banjo from Angell and some welcome vocal assistance from Katie Moore. This could do with a little more melody and a lot less ambience.

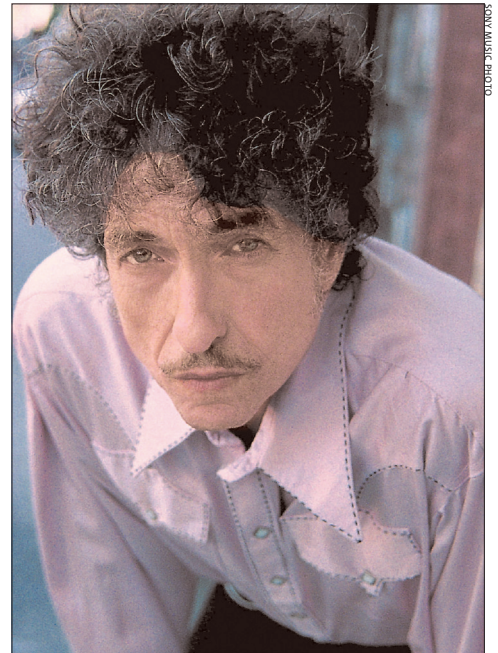
Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

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Twin girls

It'll be a girl — and a girl! — for Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick. The couple are expecting twin daughters later this summer "with the generous help of a surrogate." **PEOPLE.COM**



Together Through Life is the latest album from Bob Dylan.

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4/30/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Ugly Betty "Rabbit Test"	Grey's Anatomy (N)		Practice
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	Old Christine	America's Next Top Model		Practice
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	NHL Hockey Playoffs -- Teams TBA.	(HDTV) (Live)		National		
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Urgences (SC)		Squelettes	Gars fille	Perdus (HDTV) (SC)	Les Galas 2007 du Festival		Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Survivor: Tocantins (N)	CSI: Crime Scene Investgtn.	Harper's Island	
	69	69	69	CTM	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Dépenses xtr	Histoires-filles	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)	Destination Nor-Ouest (SC)	TVA 22 heures	
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	(8:01) Harper's Island		Survivor: Tocantins (N)	The Office (N)	Kink in Hair	News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: Crime Scene Investgtn.		Southland (HDTV) (N)	Grey's Anatomy (N)		News (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	(6) EastLink Television				Podium TV	EastLink Television		
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)	Hell's Kitchen (N)		Fox First
prime	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Extra (N)	Extra (N)	Name Is Earl	Parks-Recreat	Southland (N)	
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	Planet Earth			National
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Greater Boston	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	This Old Hse.	Yankee Shop	Ask This Old	Michigan
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	This Old Hse.	Yankee Shop	Ask This Old	Michigan	MI-5
	68	68	68	TQS	Rire et délire	450 chemin	Loft Story	Un monde bête	Le Destin d'Audrey (2003, Drama)	Jean Smart, Carol Kane.		110 pour cent
	23	23	23	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Commodities	GetConnected	Business News	Squeeze Play	Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer	Lou Dobbs Tonight			Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	British Open Highlights	Wachovia Champ.		PGA Tour Golf	Qual Hollow Championship -- First Round.		
	52	52	52	RSE	Golf Central	Sportsnet Con.						Sportsnet Con.
	55	55	55	SCOR	(6) HSR		MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Tampa Bay Rays. (HDTV) (Live)					Score Tonight
news	45	45	45	SPD	Bullrun (HDTV)		Pacquiiao 24/7	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)				Bullrun (HDTV)
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	Bullrun (HDTV)					Bullrun (HDTV)
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoe 101	Life Derek	NHL Hockey Playoffs -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre
	44	44	44	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek
	26	26	26	TREE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Big & Small	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	Tank Girl ★ (1995)	Ice-T
	27	27	27	TYT	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Backyardigans	Night Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files		True Jackson	H2O, Just Add	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	In Real Life "Dirty Jobs"	Comfy Couch
	70	70	70	APTN	News (N)		CSI: Miami "Silencer"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)	The First 48
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live "Top 10 Countdown"		Warriors: TKO	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	renegadeexpress	The Last Stop ★★ (2000, Suspense)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Camera	Snapshot	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		Tales of the Rat Fink (2006) (DVS)	
family	25	25	25	CMT	Karaoke Star Junior		Camt Star Crossed		CMT at the 2008 CMA's		Reba	Reba
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Force	Just for Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Hope & Faith
	153	153	153	COURT	Truth, Duty, Valour		World's Wildest Police Videos		Dumb Criminal	Navy SEALs: Untold Stories		Police Videos
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Real Superhumans-Quest for the Future	Fantastic		MythBusters
	34	34	34	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes in New Orleans	Disaster DIY	Big Amazing	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HST	Go Deep "Panama"		NCIS "Internal Affairs"		Ancient Discoveries	Go Deep "Panama"		NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Daddy's Girls	Degrassi: TNG	The O.C. "The Debut"		Technical	Technical Diff.		MythTopTens
	19	19	19	MM	mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		AC/Dc: No Bull	Entourage
	201	201	201	M1	(6:15) Stardust ★★ (2007, Fantasy)		American Venus ★★ (2007, Drama)				The Lazarus Project (2008, Suspense)	
	48	48	48	OLN	The Amazing Race		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures			Bounty Hunter
cable	51	51	51	PEACH	Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Shrek
	206	206	206	PIX	Philadelphia	(7-20) The Alamo	★★★ (1960, Historical Drama) John Wayne.				Training Day ★★ (2001, Crime Drama)	
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct		24 Hours en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)			RDI en direct
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Love-Death	Love-Death		Catwoman ★
	40	40	40	SLICE	The Mom Show		Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Sara"			X-Weighted
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 "Frozen"		Chuck (N)		Star Trek V: The Final Frontier ★★ (1989, Science Fiction)			
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: NY "Fare Game"		UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N)	
	97	97	97	STAR	etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	American Idol Extra (N)	Tonight Show
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Overhaulin' Mustang		American Chopper		American Chopper (N)	Hel-Loggers
	56	56	56	34 TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	Vanity Insanity	Inside Hollywood		Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy
variety	20	20	20	TVS	Que. champion	Journal de Fr2	Destinations	Fourchette	Club social		Complément d'enquête	
	28	28	28	V	Mysterious Island		Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	'Allo, 'Allo!		
	60	60	60	97 VIVA	Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy		Most Haunted			Passion
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jory		Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Beast" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)	WGN News

critics'corner

Bones

After a dead fraternity brother is found inside the mascot uniform of a rival school, Bones and Booth (Emily Deschanel, David Boreanaz) discover the victim had a shady operation going on the side. Booth offers to help his brother Jared (guest star Brendan Fehr) get a job despite a dishonorable discharge from the Navy. Michaela Conlin also stars in the new episode "The Beaver in the Opp." 9 PM on FOX



Tales of the Rat Fink

Filmmaker Ron Mann ("Grass," "Know Your Mushrooms") turns his lighthearted lens on an automotive legend in this 2006 documentary. It's the story of custom car designer Ed "Big Daddy" Roth, whose style went beyond the garage to the closet and played a role in the evolution of the graphic T-shirt. The "Rat Fink" of the title is a cartoon he created, a sort of anti-Mickey Mouse. 10 PM on BRAVO

30 Rock

After Liz (Tina Fey) reprimands him in front of the show's staff, Tracy (Tracy Morgan) decides to start acting like a professional. During a visit, Jack's (Alec Baldwin) mother (guest star Elaine Stritch) reveals unpleasant memories about Jack's father and how he left the family. Jenna (Jane Krakowski) gets a pet gibbon. Jack McBrayer co-stars in the new episode "The Natural Order." 10:31 PM on NBC

Weekdays @ 9pm

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TI & Just Timberlake - Dead And Gone

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Busta Rhymes Ft T-Pain - Hustlers Anthem 2009

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3OH!3 - Don't Trust Me

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Brit singing sensation Susan Boyle is reportedly looking to cash in with a tell-all book, according to Crain's New York. But some publishing executives say there might not be much to tell. "She has a story," one editor tells the newspaper. "But it's a short story." **METRO WORLD NEWS**

Celebrity Buzz

Katy flashed a girl and she liked it?

PEOPLE Katy Perry once flashed her vagina to Lady Sovereign. The singer accidentally showed the rapper her nether regions during a wild party in her hotel room, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Lady Sovereign revealed to thehothits.com: "At one of her after-parties she put her pyjamas on and I don't think she was wearing anything underneath. It was like a long T-shirt kind of thing ... I saw something I shouldn't have seen."

Gossip blogger Perez Hilton recently claimed Katy and Lady Sovereign had "locked themselves in a bathroom" at a recent party and were "doing naughty things."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Sam slapped with restraining order

LEGAL Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Aviva Bobb issued a three-year restraining order against singer Britney Spears' former manager Sam Lutfi Tuesday, people.com reports.

Jon Eardley — a lawyer who repeatedly challenged the validity of Jamie Spears' legal control over his daughter — was also slapped with a restraining order for three years.

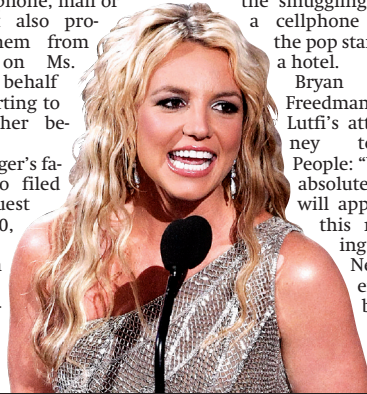
Both men must stay at least 100 yards away from Britney, her two sons and her family members' homes, and must not harass Britney and her children or contact them through phone, mail or email. It also prohibits them from "acting on Ms. Spears' behalf or purporting to act on her behalf."

The singer's father, who filed the request on Jan. 30, alleged that both men have harassed his daughter.

ter, adding Lutfi arranged the smuggling of a cellphone to the pop star at a hotel. Bryan Freedman, Lutfi's attorney tells People: "We absolutely will appeal this ruling. Never before in history has a restraining order been issued against someone who answered another person's cries for help."

The order followed several hearings in which Spears' father, her hairstylist, bodyguard, among others, testified that the singer was in fear of Lutfi. In his defence, Lutfi's younger sister Christina testified that it was Britney who hatched the cellphone scheme because she allegedly wanted Lutfi's help to end her father's control.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Oops: Celebs unwittingly attend strip club?

PARTY Next time, these stars will be reading the fine print!

Samantha Ronson and Shannen Doherty weren't pleased when they found out they were headed to a strip club Tuesday, usmagazine.com reports.

They agreed to attend the opening of Sapphire Gen-

tleman's Club in New York, not knowing there would be topless dancers and body-painted performers. Ronson was visibly angry for having to DJ at the event.

"Sam feels she got tricked into performing," a source told usmagazine.com before the party.

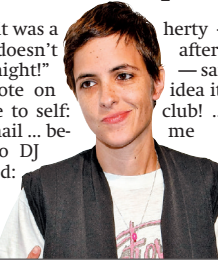
"She didn't know it was a strip club. She doesn't want to go on tonight!"

In fact, she wrote on her Twitter: "Note to self: read the whole email ... before saying yes to DJ gigs." She added: "Sapphire??? Oops!"

Shannen Do-

herty — who left after 45 minutes — said: "I had no idea it was a strip club! ... They told me it was a restaurant or club."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Sean files for separation

SEPARATION Sean Penn has filed for "legal separation with minor children" from his wife of 13 years, actress Robin Wright Penn, usmagazine.com reports.

He filed the papers last Friday, Extra first reported.

Penn, 48, initially filed for divorce in December 2007, but his petition was later dismissed. Three days later, Wright Penn, 43, filed her own paperwork.

But in April 2008, the couple's divorce petition was dismissed

at their request.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Tyra takes the stand

WITNESS Tyra Banks stepped out as the top witness yesterday, testifying against accused stalker Brady Green, people.com reports.

"I fear my safety. I feel extremely vulnerable. I fear the safety of my staff. My family. The people in my vicinity," said Banks, who appeared calm and spoke softly as she talked about Green, 38, who is charged with stalking, harassment and criminal trespass.

Explaining the intensity of the threat, Banks said, "I was at work one day about to leave and a bunch of people on my staff said, 'No! You can't go.' (Green) got past security and you need to be here. Never in my career had staff reacted like this. I had to stay in my dressing room for a while."

The incident scared Banks: "I like to walk around my neighbourhood. I run outside. I like to go to the movies by myself, eat meals by myself ... The show made significant changes. They hired security. Plain clothes too."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Amy moving to St. Lucia

LOCATION Amy Winehouse is moving permanently to St. Lucia, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The troubled singer has spent the majority of the year on the Caribbean island and, after briefly returning to the U.K. last month, has decided to move to the island.

A source said: "Amy is fed up with the stress and trauma that comes with being in London."

"She has made so many friends

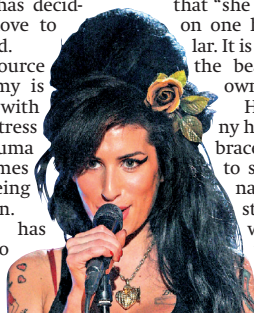
in St. Lucia and says it feels like home. When she returned to the U.K. in March she felt like an outsider."

Amy has been house-hunting since returning to the island and has finally found her dream home.

The source told The Sun that "she has her heart set on one house in particular. It is massive, right on the beach and has its own big garden."

Her record company has reportedly embraced Amy's desire to start over, and financed a recording studio so she can work on new tracks from home.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



Mel seen out with Oksana

RELATIONSHIP More than two weeks after his wife filed for divorce, a smiling Mel Gibson made a rare public appearance with his girlfriend Tuesday night at the L.A. industry screening of X-Men Origins: Wolverine, people.com reports.

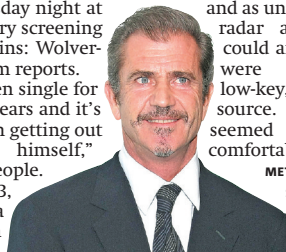
"Mel has been single for almost three years and it's nice to see him getting out and enjoying himself," his rep tells People.

The actor, 53, dressed in a black suit with

a dark grey shirt, held hands on the carpet with Oksana Grigorieva, a 39-year-old Russian singer.

"They came in quietly and as under-the-radar as they could and they were pretty low-key," says a source. "Mel seemed very comfortable."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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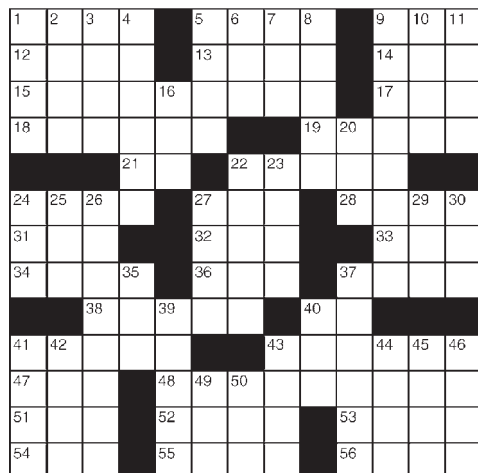
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Take Five



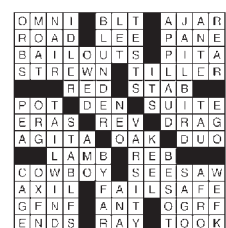
Crossword across

- 1 From square one
- 5 Orsk's river
- 9 Bumped into
- 12 — noise
- 13 Narc's measure
- 14 Skilled fighter pilot
- 15 February 2
- 17 That lass
- 18 Puts on a show
- 19 Salts town
- 21 Ego counterpart
- 22 Binge
- 24 Base runner's goal
- 27 "I — Camera"
- 28 Rodents do it
- 31 Playwright Levin
- 32 Folk-song mule
- 33 Bambi's aunt
- 34 Network
- 36 Doctrine
- 37 Charon's river
- 38 Ark contents
- 40 Apr., e.g.
- 41 Verify
- 43 Motion picture industry
- 47 Disencumber
- 48 Complete views
- 51 Commotion
- 52 Wreck
- 53 Stopwatch noise
- 54 Chaps
- 55 Look lecherously
- 56 Belligerent deity

Crossword down

- 1 Rudiments
- 2 Spruce
- 3 Sicilian spouter
- 4 Shoe with triangular sole
- 5 Mandolins' kin
- 6 Edge
- 7 Carte intro
- 8 Also-ran
- 9 "Le Cid" composer
- 10 Musical comeback
- 11 Abound
- 16 Opened
- 20 Cribbage scorer
- 22 Huge hit
- 23 Good place to get a date
- 24 That guy
- 25 Tramcar contents
- 26 Elephant's ancestor
- 27 — Minor
- 29 One or more
- 30 Main ingredient in lip-stick
- 35 Carpool-lane abbr.
- 37 Beethoven piece
- 39 Copy
- 40 "Bei — Bist du Schön"
- 41 Baby carriage
- 42 Carnival attraction
- 43 Traffic pylon
- 44 Eastern potentate
- 45 Pepper spray
- 46 Requests
- 49 Summertime mo.
- 50 Zero

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



1	7	2	6	4	8	3	5	9
4	9	5	1	3	7	6	8	2
8	6	3	2	9	5	1	4	7
2	3	6	7	5	4	8	9	1
9	5	4	8	6	1	2	7	3
7	1	8	9	2	3	4	6	5
6	4	1	3	7	9	5	2	8
3	2	7	5	8	6	9	1	4
5	8	9	4	1	2	7	3	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

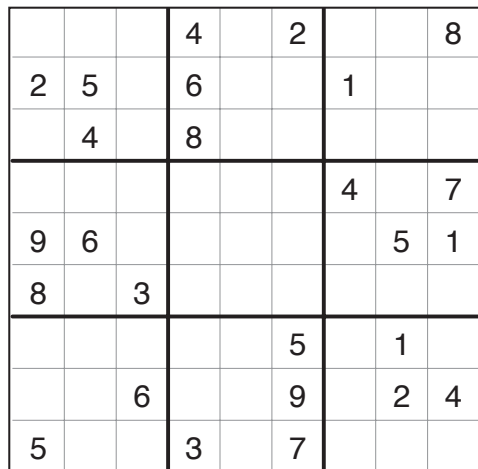
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

- Under 13 minGenius
13-17 minScholar
17-21 minSmart
21-25 minNot bad
25+ minKeep practising

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Metro Recipe of the Day



Spanish Rice with Chorizo and Sage

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/4 cups (300 ml) chicken stock
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 1 medium red onion
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 medium red pepper
- 1 cup (250 ml) long-grain rice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) turmeric
- 1 can (19 oz / 540 ml) chopped tomatoes
- Salt and black pepper
- 6 oz (170 g) chorizo sausage or spicy salami
- Small bunch of fresh sage
- 6 oz (170 g) frozen peas

METHOD:

1. Heat chicken stock in small pot. Heat olive oil in wide frying pan.
2. Peel and chop onion and garlic, add them to frying pan, and cook over moderately high heat until onion is soft, stirring frequently, 3 minutes.
3. While onion and garlic are frying, rinse, halve, de-seed and roughly chop

pepper. Add to pan with rice and turmeric, and stir-fry 3 minutes.

4. Add heated stock, canned tomatoes and their juice, and season to taste. Bring to boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, 5 minutes.
5. Cut chorizo sausage into fairly thick chunks, then stir into rice and continue cooking 5 minutes.
6. Rinse and roughly chop sage and add to rice, with peas. Return to boil, then reduce heat, and simmer until rice is tender and has mostly absorbed liquid, 5 minutes. If mixture dries out before rice is cooked, add more stock, or some dry white wine. Serve hot.

SERVES 4



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Knowledge of a romance can cause suffering. A friend's respect brings out your good side. A forced move is not productive.



TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21
Forgive someone who quickly apologizes. A receptive woman can keep a secret. A long wait ends at bedtime.



GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21
A sudden attraction provokes a sharp comment. Preposterous people behave like cowards. Focus on being well and happy.



CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22
A meeting leads to new beliefs. Make a quick getaway after an interruption. Don't wait too long for a delivery.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23
Make a necessary break in your journey. Test a theory and make a request. Don't be afraid to take it easy.



VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22
Slip away from a confusing crisis. An old-fashioned woman reprimands a fickle person. Someone's devotion will satisfy you.



LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23
Work out a way to ease suffering. Someone's outrage will overwhelm you. Emotional turmoil causes a mishap.



SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22
Accept new challenges for old time's sake. A daydreamer needs more information. A proud person is dangerously painstaking.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21
A situation worsens before improving. An incredible person needs to be pampered. A younger guy is only horsing around.



CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20
You'll be surprised by someone's guilt. Beware displaying any raw emotion in public. A traitor endangers a loving feeling.



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18
A minor complication becomes a decisive factor. You'll overcome a bout of indecision. Someone's stubbornness is meaningless.



PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20
Make up with an unpredictable dissenter. Break new ground by using strong words. Stop talking about amusing yourself with gifts.



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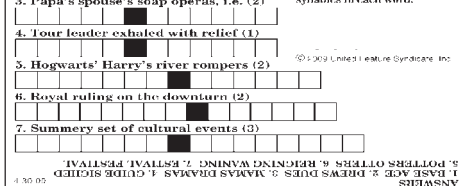
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WORDY GURDY

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. Soldier headquarters expert (1)
2. Game-show host Corey's union fees (1)
3. Papa's spouse's soap operas, i.e. (2)
4. Tour leader exhaled with relief (1)
5. Hogwarts' Harry's river rompers (2)
6. Royal ruling on the downturn (2)
7. Summery set of cultural events (3)



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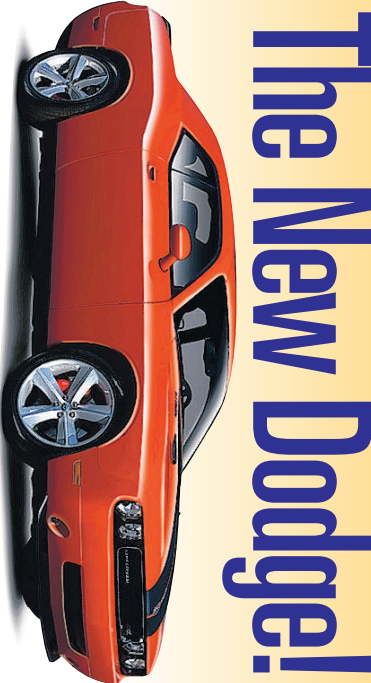


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